

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated September 20, 2007. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

As outlined above, claims 11-35 stand for consideration in this application, wherein claims 1-10 are being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, while new claims 11-35 are hereby submitted for consideration.

All amendments to the application are fully supported therein. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Interview Summary

The telephone interview was conducted with the Examiner Sigmund Tang and the Primary Examiner George Bugg on November 6, 2007. Agreement was reached with respect to a proper Power of Attorney granting Lily Nue a power had not been properly filed. However, the Primary Examiner suggested amending claims as submitted in the preliminary amendment in the corresponding PCT/JP04/11840.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Moroto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,121,326). Claims 4-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Moroto in view of Katou et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,006,161). Claims 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Moroto in view of Nakayama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,732,385). As mentioned above, claims 1-10 are being cancelled, and therefore, the rejection of claims 1-10 is moot.

New claims 11-35

According to the M.P.E.P. §2131, a claim is anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102 (a), (b), and (e) only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.

Claim 11 recites a map display method for detecting the present position of a vehicle and displaying a road map including a vehicle position mark indicating the present position of the vehicle and a guide route along which the vehicle runs, characterized in that a summarized map indicating the guide route with a summarization degree corresponding to the distance from the present vehicle position to the destination or the running speed of the vehicle is prepared, the summarized map thus prepared is displayed on a display means, and the roads including the guide route, main road and branch roads are given priority in that order in the road map, and the summarized map is prepared by selecting the roads based on the priority.

Claim 12 recites a map display method for detecting the present position of a vehicle and displaying a road map including a vehicle position mark indicating the present position of the vehicle and a guide route along which the vehicle runs, characterized in that a summarized map indicating the guide route with a summarization degree corresponding to the distance from the present vehicle position to the destination or the running speed of the vehicle is prepared, the summarized map thus prepared is displayed on a display means, and the map is summarized always with the objects therein not more than a predetermined limit amount.

Claim 23 recites that a map display method for detecting a present position of a vehicle and displaying a road map including a vehicle position mark indicating the present position of the vehicle and a guide route along which the vehicle runs, comprising the steps of: preparing a summarized map indicating the guide route with a summarization degree corresponding to a distance from the present position of the vehicle to a destination or a running speed of the vehicle; displaying the summarized map prepared on a display means; giving priority the roads including the guide route, a main road and a branch road in this order in the road map; and preparing the summarized map by selecting roads to be displayed therein from the roads based on the priority, wherein a number of the selected roads does not exceed a limit number, the limit number being predetermined according to the summarization degree.

Claim 24 recites that a map display method for detecting the present position of a

vehicle and displaying a road map including a vehicle position mark indicating the present position of the vehicle and a guide route along which the vehicle runs, comprising the steps of: preparing a summarized map indicating the guide route with a summarization degree corresponding to a distance from the present position of the vehicle to a destination or a running speed of the vehicle; displaying the summarized map prepared on a display means; and summarizing the map with objects therein, a number of the object being not more than a predetermined limit amount.

In the method as recited in claims 11 and 23, the number of roads to be displayed on the screen is limited. For example, the degrees of the priority in the roads to be displayed are given in order from the guide route, the main roads, to the branch roads connected to the guide route. The number of roads to be displayed is counted according to the degree of the priority. Any roads beyond the limited number are omitted and are not displayed on the screen. In the method as recited in claims 12 and 24, the map is summarized by limiting an amount of objects to be displayed on the screen so as not to exceed a predetermined limit amount. Therefore, the number of roads and/or objects to be displayed on the screen can be reduced, and thus, it is easier to read the map on the screen. Consequently, a driver can easily recognize a situation where the car is present by looking at the screen.

In contrast, Moroto merely shows a navigation system defining road ranks according to a scale ratio and defining displayed roads for each road rank (Figs. 2-3, col. 5, lines 53-65). Moroto does not show or suggest that the number of the selected roads is limited so as not to exceed a limit number which is predetermined according to the summarization degree. Moreover, Moroto does not show or suggest summarizing the map with objects therein, a number of the object being not more than a predetermined limit amount.

Therefore, Moroto does not show every element recited in claims 11, 12, 23, and 24. Accordingly, claims 11, 12, 23, and 24 are not anticipated by Moroto.

The secondary reference of Katou shows a navigation system changing between a one-screen mode and a multiple-screen mode and performing a three-dimensional display. The other secondary reference of Nakayama shows a navigation system performing a three-dimensional display. However, neither Katou nor Nakayama provides any disclosure, teaching or suggestion that makes up for the deficiencies in Moroto. Therefore, at the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would not and could not achieve all

the features as recited in claims 11, 12, 23, and 24 by combining Katou or Nakayama with Moroto. Accordingly, claims 11, 12, 23, and 24 are not obvious in view of all the prior art cited.

As to dependent claims 13-23 and 25-35, the arguments set forth above with respect to independent claims 11, 12, 23, and 24 are equally applicable here. The corresponding base claim being allowable, claims 13-23 and 25-35 must also be allowable.

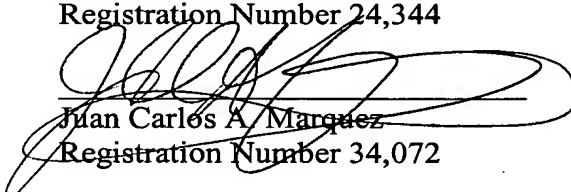
Conclusion

In light of the Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully request early and favorable action with regard to the present application, and a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344



Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200

December 20, 2007
SPF/JCM/YOM